

County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) Eligibility Policy and Procedures Guide

U.S. Repatriation Program

Page

1 of 2

Issue date:

11/2/15

Effective date:

11/2/15

Background:

The United States Repatriation Program was established in 1935 by the federal Social Security Act and assists U.S. citizens and their dependents to return to the U.S. when they become destitute or ill in a foreign country, or because of war, threat of war, invasion or similar crisis, and are without available resources. The citizens are identified by the U.S. Department of State (DOS) as having returned or been brought from a foreign country to the U.S.

The Group/Emergency Repatriation Program provides emergency evacuation of U.S. citizens overseas due to conditions of war, threat of war, invasion, natural disaster, or a Presidential Declaration of National Emergency.

Repatriation Program services and cash assistance are 100 percent federally funded. However, assistance given under this program is a loan which must be repaid to the U.S. government. Individuals requesting Repatriation Program assistance are required to sign a repayment agreement.

Note: The San Diego County [Adult Protective Services \(APS\) Program](#) is responsible for the provision of these services in San Diego County.

Policy:

Agency Roles and Responsibilities

Federal, state, local, and nonprofit agencies are involved in providing repatriation services that include the following:

- The DOS certifies U.S. citizens who are eligible for the Repatriation Program.
- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) is responsible for arranging and paying for services once the repatriate has arrived in the U.S.
- The International Social Service (ISS) - United States of America Branch, Inc., a nonprofit agency under contract with ORR, is responsible for notifying the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), and the affected county, where a DOS certified repatriate is arriving, what his or her needs are and arranging payment for the services provided. Effective April 1, 2010, ISS coordinates payment of services with the counties.
- The County Social Services Departments provide direct services to the repatriates.
- The APS worker contacts the North Central Family Resource Center (NCeFRC) to set up an appointment for the repatriate prior to the repatriate's arrival.
- CDSS resolves issues among ORR, ISS and counties.

Procedure:

Program Services

Repatriates are provided with cash aid and services which include:

County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) Eligibility Policy and Procedures Guide

U.S. Repatriation Program

Page

2 of 2

- Food, lodging and incidentals
- Domestic travel assistance
- Medical/psychiatric care
- Assistance to unaccompanied minors
- Resettlement aid for up to 90 days (certain temporary assistance may be provided beyond 90 days upon a finding by the DHHS Secretary that circumstances involved necessitate or justify it)
- Cash assistance at the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) grant level
- Other assistance or services approved by ISS

Impacts:

[Adult Protective Services Policy and Procedure Guide Section XIII](#)

[Medi-Cal Program Guide Article 5, Section 05.08.02.C](#)

References:

[All County Information Notice No. I-41-15](#)

[MPP Specialized Programs Program Guide \(SPPG\) 68-100](#)

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/repatriation>

<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/refugeeprogram/PG1269.htm>

[Title 45, Chapter II, Part 212 of the Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\)](#)

[Title 45, PART 211 of the code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\)](#)

[Adult Protective Services Policy and Procedure Guide Section XIII](#)

Sunset Date:

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 11/30/18

Approval for release:



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Eligibility Operations